# On *n*-Path-Controlled Grammars

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# Outline



- Introduction
- Definitions
- Results
- Examples
- Conclusion
- References

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## What's going on

- Regulated formal model.
- Model based on the restrictions on the derivation trees.
- Actual trend in today's FLT (see (1), (2), (3), (4), (5), (6), (7)).
- Simple extension of context-free grammars.
- One of the ways to increase the generative power of context-free grammar.
- Potentially applicable model.



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- Potentially applicable model.

#### Motivation

Generation of not context-free languages of the form

- a<sup>n</sup>b<sup>n</sup>c<sup>n</sup>, a<sup>n</sup>b<sup>n</sup>c<sup>n</sup>d<sup>n</sup>, a<sup>n</sup>b<sup>n</sup>c<sup>n</sup>d<sup>n</sup>e<sup>n</sup>, ...
- a<sup>k</sup>b<sup>l</sup>a<sup>k</sup>b<sup>l</sup>, a<sup>k</sup>b<sup>l</sup>c<sup>m</sup>a<sup>k</sup>b<sup>l</sup>c<sup>m</sup>, a<sup>k</sup>b<sup>l</sup>c<sup>m</sup>d<sup>n</sup>a<sup>k</sup>b<sup>l</sup>c<sup>m</sup>d<sup>n</sup>, ...

# Preliminaries



#### Linear grammar

- G = (V, T, P, S), where
  - V is an alphabet,
  - $T \subseteq V$  is a terminal alphabet,
  - *P* is a finite set of production rules of the form  $A \rightarrow x$ , where  $A \in V T$ ,  $x \in T^*NT^*$ , N = V T,
  - $S \in V T$  is the starting symbol.



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#### Context-free grammar

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## Set of the derivation trees

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## A path

- A path *s* of  $t \in_G \triangle(x)$  is sequence  $a_1 \dots a_n$ ,  $n \ge 1$ , of nodes of *t* with:
  - *a*<sub>1</sub> is the root of *t*,
  - a1 is labeled by starting symbol of G,
  - *a<sub>n</sub>* is a leaf of *t*,
  - $a_n$  is labeled by terminal symbol of G,
  - for each i = 1, ..., n 1, there is an edge from  $a_i$  to  $a_{i+1}$  in t.
- Let *path(s)* denote the word obtained by concatenating all symbols of the path *s* (in order from the top).

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- Two grammars G and G':
  - G generates a language over its alphabet of terminals T.
  - G' generates a language over the total alphabet of G.

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#### More formal idea of PC grammars

A string w generated by G is accepted only if there is a derivation tree t of w with respect to G such that there exists a path in t which is described by a string from L(G').



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Several types of <sub>n</sub>PC grammars in relation to

- Path-controlled grammars,
- The pumping lemma for linear languages.



An  $_{n}PC$  grammar is a pair (G, G'), where

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- Regular paths do not increase the generative power (see (3) and (5), Prop. 2).
- Linear paths can increase the generative power (see (5)).

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#### Generated language

 $L(G, G') = \{w \in L(G) | \text{ there is a set } C \text{ of } n \text{ different paths in} t \in_G \triangle(w) \text{ such that for all } p \in C \text{ it holds } path(p) \in L(G') \text{ and all } p \in C \text{ are divided in the common node of } t\}.$ 

# Obvious facts about the paths

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- For each two  $p_1, p_2 \in C$  it holds that  $path(p_1) = rDs_1$ ,  $path(p_2) = rDs_2$ , where  $r \in N^*$ ,  $D \in N$ ,  $s_1, s_2 \in N^*T$  and  $|rD| = m_C$ .

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#### Pumping lemma for linear languages

If *L* is a linear language, then there are  $p, q \in \mathbb{N}$  such that each string  $z \in L$  with  $|z| \ge p$  can be written in the form z = uvwxy with  $0 < |vx| \le |uvxy| \le q$ , such that  $uv^iwx^iy \in L$  for all  $i \ge 1$ .



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#### Types of $_{n}PC$ grammars

- ${}_{n}^{I}PC$  if C satisfies  $0 \le m_{C} \le |u|$ ,
- $\prod_{n} PC$  if C satisfies  $|u| < m_C \le |uv|$ ,
- $\prod_{n} PC$  if C satisfies  $|uv| < m_C \le |uvw|$ ,
- ${}_{n}^{N}PC$  if C satisfies  $|uvw| < m_{C} \leq |uvwx|$ ,
- $_{n}^{V}PC$  if C satisfies  $|uvwx| < m_{C} \leq |uvwxy|$ ,

where uvwxy is the shortest path from C.

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#### Language families

The family of the languages generated by *LIN*, *CF*, *PC*, *nPC*, *nPC* 

















Theorem 1

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*Proof:* The equality clearly follows from the definitions of *PC*,  $_{n}PC$ , and  $_{n}^{i}PC$ , for i = I, II, III, IV, V, grammars. *Informally:* One path to control means no division of the controlled paths.


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#### Theorem 2

If  $L \in III-n-PC$ , for  $n = card(C) \ge 0$ , then there are  $p, q \in \mathbb{N}$  such that each  $z \in L$  with |z| > p can be written in the form  $z = u_1v_1u_2v_2 \dots u_{2n+2}v_{2n+2}u_{2n+3}$ , such that  $0 < |v_1v_2 \dots v_{2n+2}| \le q$  and  $u_1v_1^iu_2v_2^i \dots u_{2n+2}v_{2n+2}^iu_{2n+3} \in L$  for all  $i \ge 1$ .



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Notice that for n = 0, the Theorem 2 holds for context-free languages.































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# Proof Idea:

• Let (G, G') be a  ${}_{n}^{II}PC$ -grammar, where

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- Consider  $t \in_{(G,G')} \triangle(z)$ . For each  $path(s) = SA_1 \dots A_k a$  of t, where  $s \in C$ , consider
  - the rules  $A_i \rightarrow x_i A_{i+1} y_i$  used when passing from  $A_i$  to  $A_{i+1}$  on this path,
  - the rule  $A_k \rightarrow x_k a y_k$  used in the last step of the derivation in G corresponding to the path s.



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Consider that any x<sub>i</sub>y<sub>i</sub>, i = 1,..., k, contains a nonterminal B that do not belong on any path s ∈ C. Clearly, there is substring z' of z derived from B.



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- By the pumping lemma for context-free languages,  $z'_1, z'_2$  are bounded in length.



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• If L(G) is infinite, the string  $path(s) \in L(G')$  is potentially arbitrarily long. Thus, if  $path(s) = u_s v_s x_s y_s z_s$  with  $|u_s v_s x_s y_s z_s| \ge k_2$ , for some  $k_2 \ge 0$ , then  $u_s v_s x_s y_s z_s$  satisfies  $u_s v_s^i x_s y_s^i z_s \in L(G')$ , for  $i \ge 1$ .



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- The derivations starting from the symbols of v and y can be repeated in G.
- Since (G, G') is  ${}_{n}^{II}PC$  grammar, it follows that:
  - the derivations starting from the symbols of v in G are common for all  $s \in C$ ,
  - the derivations starting from the symbols of y in G are potentially unique for each  $s \in C$ .



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• Consider the derivations starting from v in G. This leads to the pumping of two substrings  $v_1$ ,  $v_{2n+2}$  of z—one in the left-hand side, one in the right-hand side controlled by the common part of all  $s \in C$ .



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# Proof Idea:

- Consider the derivations starting from v in G. This leads to the pumping of two substrings  $v_1$ ,  $v_{2n+2}$  of z—one in the left-hand side, one in the right-hand side controlled by the common part of all  $s \in C$ .
- Consider the derivations starting from y in G. This leads to the pumping of two substrings of z—one in the left-hand side, one in the right-hand side corresponding to each  $s \in C$ . For each  $s_{i+1} \in C$ , denote this two substrings  $v_{2i+2}$ ,  $v_{2i+3}$ , i = 0, 1, ..., n-1. Since (G, G') is  ${}_{n}^{"}PC$  grammar, we obtain 2n pumped substrings of z.



If  $L \in III-n-PC$ , for  $n = card(C) \ge 0$ , then there are  $p, q \in \mathbb{N}$  such that each  $z \in L$  with |z| > p can be written in the form  $z = u_1v_1u_2v_2 \dots u_{2n+2}v_{2n+2}u_{2n+3}$ , such that  $0 < |v_1v_2 \dots v_{2n+2}| \le q$  and  $u_1v_1^iu_2v_2^i \dots u_{2n+2}v_{2n+2}^iu_{2n+3} \in L$  for all  $i \ge 1$ .

Proof Idea:

• By the pumping lemma for context-free languages, the substrings  $v_1, v_2, \ldots, v_{2n+2}$  are bounded in length.



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Proof Idea:

- By the pumping lemma for context-free languages, the substrings  $v_1, v_2, \ldots, v_{2n+2}$  are bounded in length.
- Thus, the total length of the 2n + 2 pumped substrings of z is bounded by a constant q.



## Corollary 3

# **III-n-PC** cannot count to 2n + 3, but can count to 2n + 2.

*Proof:*  $L = \{a^i b^j c^i d^j e^j f^i g^j | i \ge 1\} \notin III-2-PC$ , but  $L \in III-3-PC$ .



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#### Corollary 4

There is an infinite hierarchy of  $\bigcup_{i=0}^{n}$  III-i-PC languages.

*Proof:*  $\bigcup_{i=0}^{n}$  III-i-PC  $\subset \bigcup_{i=0}^{n+1}$  III-i-PC, for  $n \ge 0$ , is proper.



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#### Corollary 5

III-n-PC is not closed under concatenation.

*Proof:*  $L = \{a^i a^i a^i a^i a^i a^i | i \ge 1\} \in III-2-PC$ , but  $LL \notin III-2-PC$ .



# Example 1

Consider  $\frac{M}{2}PC$  grammar (G, G'), where

$$\begin{split} & G = (\{S, X, Y, U, V, a, b, c, d, e, f\}, \{a, b, c, d, e, f\}, P, S) \\ & P = \{S \rightarrow aSf, S \rightarrow aXYf, X \rightarrow bXc, Y \rightarrow dYe, \\ & X \rightarrow U, U \rightarrow bc, Y \rightarrow V, V \rightarrow de\} \\ & L(G') = \{S^n X^n U b \cup S^n Y^n V d | n \geq 1\} \end{split}$$

 $L(G, G') = \{a^{i}b^{i}c^{i}d^{j}e^{i}f^{i} | i \geq 1\}$ 



# Consider $\frac{11}{2}PC$ grammar (G, G'), where

$$\begin{aligned} G &= (\{S, X, Y, U, V, a, b, c, d, e, f\}, \{a, b, c, d, e, f\}, P, S) \\ P &= \{S \rightarrow aSf, S \rightarrow aXYf, X \rightarrow bXc, Y \rightarrow dYe, \\ X \rightarrow U, U \rightarrow bc, Y \rightarrow V, V \rightarrow de\} \\ L(G') &= \{S^n X^n U b \cup S^n Y^n V d | n \ge 1\} \end{aligned}$$

$$L(G,G') = \{a^{i}b^{i}c^{i}d^{j}e^{i}f^{i} | i \ge 1\}$$

# $\begin{array}{l} \mbox{Example of the derivation:} \\ S \Rightarrow aSf \Rightarrow aaSff \Rightarrow aaaSfff \Rightarrow aaaaXYffff \Rightarrow aaaabXCYffff \Rightarrow \\ aaaabbXccYffff \Rightarrow aaaabbbXcccYfffff \Rightarrow \\ aaaabbbUcccYffff \Rightarrow aaaabbbbccccdYffff \Rightarrow \\ aaaabbbbccccddYeffff \Rightarrow aaaabbbbccccddYeeffff \Rightarrow \\ aaaabbbbccccdddYeeeffff \Rightarrow aaaabbbbccccdddVeeeffff \Rightarrow \\ aaaabbbbccccdddYeeeffff = a^4b^4c^4d^4e^4f^4 \end{array}$

# Example 2

Let us have  ${}^{I\!I}_n PC$  grammar (G, G'),  $n \ge 0$ , where

$$\begin{aligned} G_1 &= (\{S\} \cup \{A_i, B_i | i = 1, \dots, n\} \cup \{a_i | i = 1, \dots, 2n+2\}, \\ \{a_i | i = 1, \dots, 2n+2\}, P, S) \\ P &= \{S \rightarrow a_1 S a_{2n+2}, S \rightarrow a_1 A_1 A_2 \dots A_n a_{2n+2}\} \cup \\ \{A_{i+1} \rightarrow a_{2i+2} A_{i+1} a_{2i+3}, A_{i+1} \rightarrow B_{i+1}, \\ B_{i+1} \rightarrow a_{2i+2} a_{2i+3} | i = 0, \dots, n-1\} \\ L(G') &= \bigcup_{i=1}^n \{S^k A_i^k B_i a_{2i} | k \ge 1\} \end{aligned}$$



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Let us have  ${}^{I\!I}_n PC$  grammar (G, G'),  $n \ge 0$ , where

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Consider a derivation in (G, G'):

$$\begin{split} S &\Rightarrow^{k} a_{1}^{k} S a_{2n+2}^{k} \\ &\Rightarrow a_{1}^{k} a_{1} A_{1} \dots A_{n} a_{2n+2} a_{2n+2}^{k} \\ &\Rightarrow^{n \times k} a_{1}^{k+1} a_{2}^{k} B_{1} a_{3}^{k} \dots a_{2n}^{k} B_{n} a_{2n+1}^{k} a_{2n+2}^{k+1} \\ &\Rightarrow^{n} a_{1}^{k+1} a_{2}^{k+1} a_{3}^{k+1} \dots a_{2n}^{k+1} a_{2n+2}^{k+1} \end{split}$$

# Example 2

Let us have  ${}_{n}^{III}PC$  grammar (G, G'),  $n \ge 0$ , where

$$\begin{split} & G_1 = (\{S\} \cup \{A_i, B_i | i = 1, \dots, n\} \cup \{a_i | i = 1, \dots, 2n+2\}, \\ & \{a_i | i = 1, \dots, 2n+2\}, P, S\} \\ & P = \{S \rightarrow a_1 S a_{2n+2}, \quad S \rightarrow a_1 A_1 A_2 \dots A_n a_{2n+2}\} \cup \\ & \{A_{i+1} \rightarrow a_{2i+2} A_{i+1} a_{2i+3}, \quad A_{i+1} \rightarrow B_{i+1}, \\ & B_{i+1} \rightarrow a_{2i+2} a_{2i+3} | i = 0, \dots, n-1\} \\ & L(G') = \bigcup_{i=1}^n \{S^k A_i^k B_i a_{2i} | k \ge 1\} \end{split}$$

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$$L(G_1,G') = \{a_1^k \dots a_{2n+2}^k | k \ge 1\}.$$





Let  $m \ge 0$  with  $m \mod 2 = 0$ . Let us have  $\prod_{n=1}^{m} PC$  grammar (G, G'),  $n \ge 0$ , where

$$\begin{split} & G = (\{A_j, B_j, a_j | j = 1, \dots, m\} \cup \{C\}, \{a_j | j = 1, \dots, m\}, P, A_1) \\ & P = \{A_1 \rightarrow a_1 A_1, A_1 \rightarrow a_1 A_2, B_1 \rightarrow B_1 a_1, B_1 \rightarrow C, C \rightarrow a_1\} \cup \\ & \{A_m \rightarrow A_m a_m, A_m \rightarrow \{B_m\}^n\} \cup \\ & \{A_i \rightarrow A_i a_i, A_i \rightarrow A_{i+1} | i = 2, \dots, m-1 \text{ with } i \text{ mod } 2 = 0\} \cup \\ & \{A_i \rightarrow a_i A_i, A_i \rightarrow A_{i+1} | i = 3, \dots, m-1 \text{ with } i \text{ mod } 2 = 1\} \cup \\ & \{B_i \rightarrow a_i B_i, B_i \rightarrow B_{i-1} | i = 2, \dots, m \text{ with } i \text{ mod } 2 = 0\} \cup \\ & \{B_i \rightarrow B_i a_i, B_i \rightarrow B_{i-1} | i = 3, \dots, m \text{ with } i \text{ mod } 2 = 1\} \end{split}$$

 $L(G') = \{A_1^{k_1} A_2^{k_2} \dots A_m^{k_m} B_m^{k_m} B_{m-1}^{k_{m-1}} \dots B_2^{k_2} B_1^{k_1} Ca_1 \mid k_i \ge 0, i = 1, \dots, m\}$ 



Consider a derivation in (G, G'):

$$\begin{split} &A_{1} \Rightarrow^{k_{1}} a_{1}^{k_{1}} A_{1} \Rightarrow a_{1}^{k_{1}+1} A_{2} \Rightarrow^{k_{2}} a_{1}^{k_{1}+1} A_{2} a_{2}^{k_{2}} \Rightarrow a_{1}^{k_{1}+1} A_{3} a_{2}^{k_{2}} \\ &\Rightarrow^{*} a_{1}^{k_{1}+1} a_{3}^{k_{3}} a_{5}^{k_{5}} \dots a_{m-1}^{k_{m-1}} A_{m} a_{m}^{k_{m}} \dots a_{6}^{k_{6}} a_{4}^{k_{4}} a_{2}^{k_{2}} \\ &\Rightarrow a_{1}^{k_{1}+1} a_{3}^{k_{3}} a_{5}^{k_{5}} \dots a_{m-1}^{k_{m-1}} \{B_{m}\}^{n} a_{m}^{k_{m}} \dots a_{6}^{k_{6}} a_{4}^{k_{4}} a_{2}^{k_{2}} \\ &\Rightarrow^{n \times k_{m}} a_{1}^{k_{1}+1} a_{3}^{k_{3}} a_{5}^{k_{5}} \dots a_{m-1}^{k_{m-1}} \{a_{m}^{k_{m}} B_{m}\}^{n} a_{m}^{k_{m}} \dots a_{6}^{k_{6}} a_{4}^{k_{4}} a_{2}^{k_{2}} \\ &\Rightarrow^{n} a_{1}^{k_{1}+1} a_{3}^{k_{3}} a_{5}^{k_{5}} \dots a_{m-1}^{k_{m-1}} \{a_{m}^{k_{m}} B_{m-1}\}^{n} a_{m-1}^{k_{m-1}} \}^{n} a_{m}^{k_{m}} \dots a_{6}^{k_{6}} a_{4}^{k_{4}} a_{2}^{k_{2}} \\ &\Rightarrow^{n \times k_{m-1}} a_{1}^{k_{1}+1} a_{3}^{k_{3}} a_{5}^{k_{5}} \dots a_{m-1}^{k_{m-1}} \{a_{m}^{k_{m}} B_{m-1} a_{m-1}^{k_{m-1}}\}^{n} a_{m}^{k_{m}} \dots a_{6}^{k_{6}} a_{4}^{k_{4}} a_{2}^{k_{2}} \\ &\Rightarrow^{n \times k_{m-1}} a_{1}^{k_{1}+1} a_{3}^{k_{3}} a_{5}^{k_{5}} \dots a_{m-1}^{k_{m-1}} \{a_{m}^{k_{m}} a_{m-2}^{k_{2}} \dots a_{2}^{k_{2}} B_{1} a_{1}^{k_{1}} \dots a_{m-3}^{k_{m-3}} a_{m-1}^{k_{m-1}}\}^{n} \\ &a_{m}^{k_{m}} \dots a_{6}^{k_{6}} a_{4}^{k_{4}} a_{2}^{k_{2}} \\ &\Rightarrow^{n} a_{1}^{k_{1}+1} a_{3}^{k_{3}} a_{5}^{k_{5}} \dots a_{m-1}^{k_{m-1}} \{a_{m}^{k_{m}} a_{m-2}^{k_{2}} \dots a_{2}^{k_{2}} Ca_{1}^{k_{1}} \dots a_{m-3}^{k_{m-3}} a_{m-1}^{k_{m-1}}\}^{n} \\ &a_{m}^{k_{m}} \dots a_{6}^{k_{6}} a_{4}^{k_{4}} a_{2}^{k_{2}} \\ &\Rightarrow^{n} a_{1}^{k_{1}+1} a_{3}^{k_{3}} a_{5}^{k_{5}} \dots a_{m-1}^{k_{m-1}} \{a_{m}^{k_{m}} a_{m-2}^{k_{m-2}} \dots a_{2}^{k_{2}} Ca_{1}^{k_{1}} \dots a_{m-3}^{k_{m-3}} a_{m-1}^{k_{m-1}}\}^{n} \\ &a_{m}^{k_{m}} \dots a_{6}^{k_{6}} a_{4}^{k_{2}} \\ &\Rightarrow^{n} a_{1}^{k_{1}+1} a_{3}^{k_{3}} a_{5}^{k_{5}} \dots a_{m-1}^{k_{m-1}} \{a_{m}^{k_{m}} a_{m-2}^{k_{m-2}} \dots a_{2}^{k_{2}} a_{1}^{k_{1}+1} \dots a_{m-3}^{k_{m-3}} a_{m-1}^{k_{m-1}}}\}^{n} \\ &a_{m}^{k_{m}} \dots a_{6}^{k_{6}} a_{4}^{k_{2}} \\ &\Rightarrow^{n} a_{1}^{k_{1}+1} a_{3}^{k_{3}} a_{5}^{k_{5}} \dots a_{m-1}^{k_{m-1}} \{a_{m}^{k_{m}} a_{m-2}^{k_{m-2}} \dots a_{2}^{k_{2}} a_{1}^{k_{1}+1$$



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$$L(G,G') = \{ (a_1^{k_1+1}a_3^{k_3}\dots a_{m-1}^{k_{m-1}}a_m^m a_{m-2}^{k_{m-2}}a_{m-4}^{k_{m-4}}\dots a_2^{k_2})^{n+1} \\ | k_i \ge 0, i = 1,\dots,m \}$$



Consider m = 4 and  $\frac{M}{3}PC$  grammar (G, G'), where

$$\begin{split} & G = (\{A, B, C, D, E, F, G, H, I, a, b, c, d\}, \{a, b, c, d\}, P, A) \\ & P = \{A \rightarrow aA, A \rightarrow aB, B \rightarrow Bb, B \rightarrow C, \\ & C \rightarrow cC, C \rightarrow D, D \rightarrow Dd, D \rightarrow HHH, \\ & E \rightarrow Ea, E \rightarrow I, F \rightarrow bF, F \rightarrow E, \\ & G \rightarrow Gc, G \rightarrow F, H \rightarrow dH, H \rightarrow G, I \rightarrow a\} \\ & L(G') = \{A^r B^s C^t D^u H^u G^t F^s E^r Ia| r, s, t, u \geq 0\} \end{split}$$

 $L(G, G') = \{a^{v}c^{w}d^{x}b^{y}a^{v}c^{w}d^{x}b^{y}a^{v}c^{w}d^{x}b^{y}a^{v}c^{w}d^{x}b^{y}| v > 0, w, x, y \ge 0\}$ 



Example of the derivation:  $A \Rightarrow aA \Rightarrow aaB \Rightarrow aaBb \Rightarrow aaCb \Rightarrow$  $aacDdb \Rightarrow aacHHHdb \Rightarrow aacdHHHdb \Rightarrow aacdGHHdb \Rightarrow$  $aacdGcHHdb \Rightarrow aacdFcHHdb \Rightarrow aacdbFcHHdb \Rightarrow$  $aacdbEcHHdb \Rightarrow aacdbEacHHdb \Rightarrow aacdbIacHHdb \Rightarrow$  $aacdbaacHHdb \Rightarrow aacdbaacdHHdb \Rightarrow aacdbaacdGHdb \Rightarrow$  $aacdbaacdGcHdb \Rightarrow aacdbaacdFcHdb \Rightarrow$  $aacdbaacdbFcHdb \Rightarrow aacdbaacdbFcHdb \Rightarrow$  $aacdbaacdbEacHdb \Rightarrow aacdbaacdblacHdb \Rightarrow$  $aacdbaacdbaacHdb \Rightarrow aacdbaacdbaacdHdb \Rightarrow$  $aacdbaacdbaacdGdb \Rightarrow aacdbaacdbaacdGcdb \Rightarrow$  $aacdbaacdbaacdFcdb \Rightarrow aacdbaacdbaacdbFcdb \Rightarrow$  $aacdbaacdbFcdb \Rightarrow aacdbaacdbFacdb \Rightarrow$ 

# Investigation of III-n-PC

 $\prod_{n} PC$  grammars are potentially usable.

- Generative power?
- Closure properties?
- Decidability properties?
- Parsing properties?
- Descriptional complexity?



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- <sup>n</sup><sub>l</sub>PC grammars are equal to concatenation of n independent PC grammars?
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## Investigation of II-n-PC and IV-n-PC

 $^{n}_{II}PC$  grammars and  $^{n}_{IV}PC$  grammars are unusable?



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# Thank you for your attention!